IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Ken HIRANO et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

(§371 of international application No. PCT/JP2003/014037)

Filed: April 28, 2005

For: METHOD FOR SORTING AND RECOVERING FINE PARTICLES,

AND APPARATUS FOR RECOVERY

Attorney Docket No.: 052525 Customer Number: 38834

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 28, 2005

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.